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BREVET BRIGADIER GENERAL GEORGE MATHEWS.

A welcome addition to our very slender stock of information relating to the biography of this officer of the Revolutionary War is contained in the accompanying papers, in the handwriting of Col. Thomas Rodney, who was a member of the Continental Congress and, in later years, Judge of the U. S. Court for the territory of Mississippi. They were purchased at the recent sale, in Philadelphia, of the correspondence of Cæsar, Thomas, and Cæsar A. Rodney.

George Mathews served in the Indian Warfare in Virginia prior to the Revolutionary War; was appointed Colonel of the Ninth Virginia Regiment, February 10, 1777; and was wounded and taken prisoner at Germantown, October 4, 1777. He was not exchanged until Dec. 5, 1781. He then joined Gen. Greene's army in the South, as Colonel of the Third Virginia Regiment, and continued in Service until the close of the War. As to the character of this service we are not informed.

Removing, with his family, to Georgia in 1785, he was a representative from that State to the first Congress held under the Constitution of the United States; and served as Governor of Georgia from 1793 to 1796.

He died at Augusta, Ga., on August 30, 1812, aged 73 years.

It is evident from the statements made by Rodney in these papers that Gen. Mathews visited the Mississippi Territory—presumably Natchez—for the purpose of seeing his Son, whom President Jefferson had appointed a Judge of one of the U. S. Courts of the Territory in 1805.

After reading Rodney's remarkable spelling of celebrated names of ancient times, it is difficult to repress a smile at his comment on the General's lack of accurate historical knowledge and his bad English.

Sunday March 31st 1805

Robt. Williams, Col. Steel, Major R. Claiborne, T. Stark, Mr. W. B. Shields and Myself Dined with Genl. Mathews to day by Invitation—The Genl. is an Old officer Commanded the 9th Virginia Regmt in the Revolution—Was in the Indian Battle near the Canawa River near Mount Pleasant and was wounded at Germain Town &c and Since the Revolution was Governor of Georgia when the Famous or Rather what some think the Infamous Misisipi Georgia Grants were made—He Came here and was Married last Summer to the widow Carpenter by My self—

The Genl. Was Talkative and spoke of Hanible, Sipeo, Fabricius, Carolanus, Marius, &c &c but his historical knowledge was detached and some Times he Erred as To Time and place and frequently Spoke bad English— yet he seemed To have a pretty Strong memory—& repeated parts of the Speaches of Hanible & Sipeo—yet combind parts of different Speeches together without distinction of Time & place &c He also fought his own Battles o'er & o'er & and gave us a good many other Anectdotes—In a word he was the Orator of the day—Seldom did any of us Interrupt him—I only now & then Expressed a few words to help to rectify some mistakes of Persons, Time & place in his Historical Sketches and I believd we left the Generl. highly pleased With himself—The Genl. However is a Ruff brave old Soldier—and is in many respects Respectable —nor does he lack Strong Talants but all his Opertunities have not polished them much—His wife is an Amiable woman—

To day Munday April 1. 1805. I went to Natches in

My Carriage and Took Stark With me—Dined at Boumonts—but Visited M^{rs}. Murry, M^{rs}. Wooldridge and M^{rs}. Claiborne and returned in the Evening—Met Fitspatrick With Col. Girault, going to Natches—just before My Coffee Came in the Evening M^{r}. Brandon & M^{r}. Leamon Called & Took a glass of wine & I Promissed to go to Brandons before he Sets of for the States—some Time next week.

Memo.

When I Dined with Genl. Mathews at his own House He was disposed To Tell his Military Exploits—When he Dined with me a few days ago he was disposed to relate his Civil adventures as a Councillor &^{c}.

He was in Congress on the first Meeting and Organization of the Federal Government—and related Several anectdotes Shewing how he had Conducted himself and what his Sentiments had been on sever Important questions which also involved the Conduct and Sentiments of several other Members of Congress particularly M^{r}. Madisons the Present Secret^{y}. of the U. S.

The General was reputed a brave officer—was in The Battle with the Indians at Point Pleasant at the Mouth of the Great Canawa River—and received 5 wounds in the Battle of German Town—was a Prisoner some time to the Brittish & resided on Long Island—Since the War he has been a Representative in Congress & was once Governor of Georgia at the Time of the Yazoo Speculations—

He is Still Healthy and Active & Comfortably Settled in this Territory Misisipi—